

RFP #10-2014-DRPA Dispute Resolution Services

Responses to Vendor Questions

The following questions were timely presented and are answered below. Please keep in mind all responses to this RFP are due **Friday, April 24, 2015, by 4 p.m.** Thank you.

1) How would we gain access to the monthly statistics reports filed for Family Law for 2014?

2014 program statistics may be found in the Year-end report submitted by the ADR Department to the California Department of Consumer Affairs. Those who participate on the Oversight Committee would have received a copy by e-mail yesterday, April 9, 2015. Yearly stats can also be found in the Judicial Spring Workshop reports provided at the ADR Oversight Committee Meetings. If you are missing these documents, they may be requested from the ADR Administrator through the Procurement office.

2) Are Mediators required to be in the Family Law Departments to receive Family Law referrals? And if so, what days and times?

No, Family Law mediators have not been required to cover family law departments on a daily basis. They do however, check in with Department 202- Family Law Presiding (Judge Tyler Tharpe) during Case Management Conferences (CMCs) on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings for any potential referrals from the bench or Family Law Facilitator staff covering the CMCs. This coverage is usually for intake and appointment scheduling purposes but can result in mediation at that time depending on availability.

The Family Law mediators keep regular office hours here at the court in room 446 to conduct mediations and provide reception for any direct referrals that may be sent by the Court or Family Law Facilitator's office. *Please note, while this is the current structure in place, it is certainly open to negotiation.

3) Is the revenue generated by a DRPA Grantee, when performing dispute resolution service under DRPA, required to be reported to the court? If so, what was the amount reported by the Grantee(s) serving the Family Court for Calendar 2014?

Revenue reporting is not specifically addressed under the DRPA regulations, however the Court requests it as part of a contractor's yearly fiscal reporting. Historically, the information provided by a DRPA Grantee is presented as total income generated which includes multiple case types. Therefore, the amount specifically generated from family law cases alone is not available through the Court.

4) For Family Law property division mediation would the courts consider the use of a similar process or court forms from another California county?

The Court would consider implementation or adoption of any new resources or service formats (permissible under DRPA and Court regulations) which would enhance, streamline and create efficiencies in mediation services for litigants of Superior Court County of Fresno.

5) With this RFP, if there are no offers by bidders to provide dispute resolution in some of the civil areas will these areas go without mediation?

Unfortunately, it is a possibility that not all areas in civil will have DRPA funded mediation available as a direct resource through the court. The case types will be prioritized based on volume, existing service and need. The funding priorities outlined are listed in the RFP, page 4.

It is the intention to maintain Court-Connected DRPA services in as many areas as possible. Therefore, the Court encourages creative and collaborative options to meet the needs.